Development of Multi-Crop Agriculture

4639. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt new strategy to develop multi-crop agriculture in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance provided to Assam therefor during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). There is no specific scheme on development of multi-crop agriculture in Assam. However, emphasis is being given to increase cropping intensity in different States with the introduction of short duration crop varieties and adoption of locally developed production technology by State Agriculture University, Jorhat and its Stations.

(c) No specific financial assistance has been provided to develop multi-crop agriculture in Assam.

Gold and Uranium Deposits in Assam

4640. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any deposits of gold and uranium in Kerbi Anglong and North Eastern Hills of Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise alongwith their quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir. As per the Indian Minerals Year Book 1991, there are no known reserves of gold and uranium in Kerbi Anglong and North Eastern Hills of Assam.

(b) Does not arise.

Cost of Production of Coal

4641. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of Coal in various collieries in the country, colliery-wise;

(b) whether the cost of production is high in comparison to the other countries; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to reduce it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) According to information furnished by Coal India Ltd. (CIL) the subsidiary-wise cost of production of coal for the year 1990-91 was as follows:-

Company	*Rs./tonne*
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	498.52
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	397.67
Central Coalfields Ltd.	243.05
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	159.58
Western Coalfields Ltd.	310.82
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	191.22
North Eastern Coalfields	705.00
Overall CIL	277.18

The cost of production of SCCL* coal for 1990-91 was Rs. 401.05 per tonne.

*Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

(b) and (c). The cost of coal production of a few countries available for the year 1986-87 as compared to CIL is given below:-

Cost of Production

Country	*U.S. $ per tonne*	*Rs./tonne*
U.K.	68.80	873.10
Belgium	71.00	901.02
F.R.Germany	114.20	1449.24
Poland	29.00	368.02
India (CIL)	-	221.54

The cost of production of coal in India could have been even lower but for large manpower and low productivity. Over the past few years, efforts have been made to restrict growth of manpower and achieve increase in production through improvement in productivity. The efforts have yielded results in as much as the manpower, since 1985-86 has been kept constant at around 6.7 lakh, whereas production has increased from 134 M.T. in 1985-86 to 189.6 M.T. in 1990-91 i.e. by 41.5%. This increase has been achieved through increase in output per manshift from 0.92 tonne to 1.29 tonne during the period. As a result, the trend of increase in the unit cost of production prevailing in earlier years has been reversed since 1985-86. The cost of production has increased from Rs. 213.97 per tonne to Rs. 277.18 per tonne i.e. by 29.5% over this period as against the rise in whole sale price index (all commodities) by 45.5%.

Water Supply and Construction of Bridge in Gujarat

4642. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for the construction of a two-lane bridge through the Gulf of Cambay and supply of water through a pipeline;

(b) if so, the details including the estimated cost thereof;

(c) the quantum of water supply per day as envisaged therein;

(d) whether there is any provision for the supply of water to the industries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken to accord approval to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) On the basis of a pre-feasibility report submitted by Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited on Water Supply to Saurashrtra and Kutch Region in June, 1989, a project report was prepared by the Government of Gujarat and submitted to the Planning Commission.